

## Future Provision of Public Toilets in Enfield's Parks

### Consultation of Friends Groups

#### Deadline for responses: 2 March 2017

Dear Friends of Enfield's Parks,

Enfield Council is conducting a review of public toilet provision in parks and sports grounds and is seeking the views of all Friends of Parks Groups as part of the process.

As you may know, the Council has had to save £118 million since 2010 because of reductions in external funding– 49% in real terms - and increasing pressures on its services, and needs to save £56 million more by 2019/20. As a result, we need to continually look at ways to prioritise funding, become more efficient and find new ways to deliver services, parks toilets being no exception.

However, vandalism and anti-social behaviour continue to be a problem at certain sites and at the time of writing, 3 sites are closed as a result of vandalism damage.

The Council is considering innovative approaches to toilet provision and exploring partnership opportunities as a means of improving the service.

For the purposes of this review, the Council has divided the sites where public toilets are provided into 3 categories:

- a) **Destination parks** which are well used throughout the year, have a large catchment area and have a range of attractions, such as a variety of sports and play facilities, café, water features etc.
- b) **Community parks** which tend to have a lower footfall and a smaller catchment area than destination parks
- c) **Sports grounds** where most toilet usage is associated with weekend fixtures and where there is toilet provision in changing rooms.

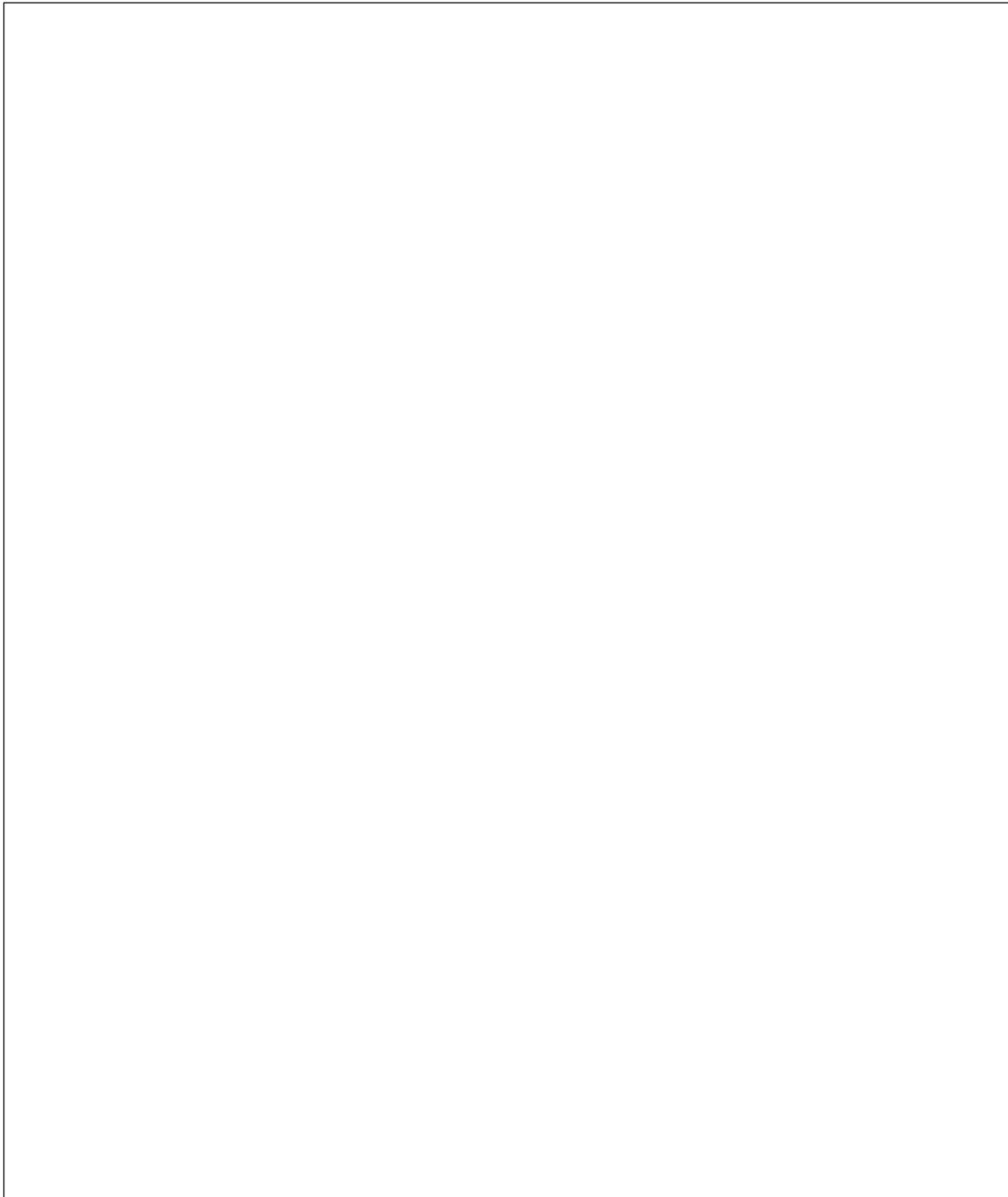
### Options for Future Service Delivery

The Council has identified the following options for future toilet provision depending on the site context:

- a) Continuing all year round opening and daily cleaning of toilets at destination parks, but looking at alternative methods of delivering the service;
- b) Where feasible, include the management of toilets as part of new café leases or negotiating with café operators to take on this task during their current lease term;
- c) Where feasible, repurposing the building in order to reduce the risk of vandalism and abuse e.g. redeveloping as a combined café & toilet;
- d) Opening toilets seasonally or for special events only;
- e) Opening toilets only at weekends when sports pitches are being used;
- f) Closing some sites permanently and redirecting park users to nearby Community Toilet Scheme toilets or relying on changing room toilets to cater for weekend sports usage

Independently of the options outline above, the Council intends to expand the Community Toilet Scheme and invite suitable businesses in the vicinity of parks across the borough to join the scheme

**Do you have any comments on the Council's proposed approach? Are there any other options that you would like to put forward for the Council to consider?**

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for users to provide their comments on the Council's proposed approach to expanding the Community Toilet Scheme.

## Appendix 1 – Draft Action Plan

The Council is considering a phased approach for the proposed changes to the parks toilets so that the impact and outcome of changes made in 2017 can be evaluated before proceeding with any further changes from 2018 onwards.

<b>Proposed Action</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018 onwards</b>  <b>(Sites listed are potentially suitable for the actions proposed, subject to the outcome of changes made in 2017)</b>
Do not re-open site closed due to vandalism or ASB and monitor impact	Boundary Playing Fields Bramley Sportsground Tottenham Recreation Ground Tatem Park	
Include toilet management in park café lease	Oakwood Park (bids for a new lease are currently being evaluated)	Bush Hill Park Forty Hall Grovelands Park Trent Park Town Park Whitewebbs
Repurpose building and let as a combined café and toilet	Pymmes Park	Jubilee Park
Open site for weekend sports pitch use only	Craig Park	Enfield Playing Fields
Trial seasonal closure (1 November to 1 March)		Jubilee Park (if repurposing option is not viable)  Bush Hill Park
Close site and redirect users to nearby community toilet		Bury Lodge Gardens  Bush Hill Park (as an alternative to seasonal closure and subject to community toilets being established nearby)
Develop Community Toilet Scheme in the vicinity of these parks, where potential has been identified (independently of any other initiative)	Albany Park Arnos Park Broomfield Bush Hill Park Enfield Playing Fields Jubilee Park Pymmes Park	